

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding CA 96002

PUBLIC HEARING
concerning

Waste Discharge Requirements
for

**MILLENNIUM HOLDING, LLC FOR CLOSURE OF
RISING STAR WASTE ROCK CONTAINMENT FACILITY
SHASTA COUNTY**

Millennium Holdings, LLC. has requested waste discharge requirements for the closure of the waste rock disposal site at the inactive Rising Star Mine in Shasta County. The old copper mine has not been active since the 1920s; however, waste rock from the mine continues to contribute low pH, metal laden water, referred to as acid mine drainage (AMD), to surface waters.

The discharge enters an unnamed tributary to Horse Creek, which is tributary to Shasta Lake. The discharge of AMD from the mine portals, waste rock dumps and non-point sources have eliminated or severely impacted aquatic life in the tributary downstream of the mine. Remedial activities have resulted in metal loading reductions; however, the receiving waters still contain metals above water quality objectives. Millennium Holdings, LLC in response to a Cease and Desist Order issued by the Board in March 2003 has proceeded with extensive remedial activities at the site, including plugging two mine portals to prevent discharges of AMD. The construction and closure of the adjacent waste rock pile will help reduce metal loading to surface waters is a continuation of the effort to comply with the Cease and Desist Order.

A **formal** public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Regional Board meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 23 or 24 June 2005
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- Staff of Central Valley Regional Board
- Millennium Holdings, LLC.

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Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Regional Board no later than **15 June 2005**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular, how the person is directly affected by the discharge. Persons wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item must submit testimony, evidence, and/or comments in writing to the Regional Board no later than **15 June 2005**. Written testimony, evidence, or comments submitted after **15 June 2005** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

Anyone having questions on the Closure of the Rising Star Waste Rock Containment Facility should contact Philip Woodward at (530) 224-4853. The proposed item and related documents may be inspected and copied at the Regional Board's office at 415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 100, Redding, California, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. by appointment.

The procedures governing Regional Water Board meetings may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and is available upon request. Hearings before the Regional Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. The procedures may be obtained by accessing http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_laws/index.html. Information on meeting and hearing procedures is also available on the Regional Board's website at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb5/board_meetings/mtgprocd.html or by contacting any one of the Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

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Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

Original Signed by: _____
JAMES C. PEDRI, Assistant Executive Officer

05/16/05